

11-15-00 A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 93-C-077C1  
 Prior Application No.: 08/169,337  
 First Named Inventor: Loi N. Nguyen et al

Examiner: L. Pham  
 Art Unit: 1107

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir: This is a request for filing a ☒ **continuation**  
☐ **continuation-in-part**  
☐ **divisional**

application under **37 CFR 1.53(b)**, of pending prior application serial no. 08/169,337, filed on December 17, 1993, for METHOD AND INTERLEVEL DIELECTRIC STRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED METAL STEP COVERAGE.

1. ☒ Enclosed is a complete copy of the prior application **including the oath or declaration as originally filed** and an affidavit or declaration verifying it as a true copy. (See No. 14 for declaration.)
2. ☐ New formal drawings are enclosed.
3. ☐ A preliminary amendment is enclosed. (Claims added by this amendment have been properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered original claim in the prior application.)
4. ☒ Also enclosed: Return Postcard
5. ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 ☐ is enclosed ☐ was filed in the prior application and such status is still proper and desired (37 CFR 1.28(a)).
6. ☐ Cancel in this application original claims ☐ of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)
7. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting the following sentence before the first line: "This is a ☒ Continuation, ☐ Continuation-in-Part or ☐ Division of application serial no. 08/169,337, filed December 17, 1993, currently pending."
8. ☐ Priority of application serial No. ☐, filed on ☐, in ☐ is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been filed in prior application serial no. ☐, filed ☐.

Express Mail No. EL139163824US

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 14, 2000.

By: Beth Costner

Beth Costner

JC893 U.S. PTO  
 09/11/2007

11/14/00

08/169,337

11/14/00  
 JC893 U.S. PTO

9.   X   The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION  
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELLED BY AMENDMENT NOW

Basic Fee	=	<b>\$710.00</b>
Extra Total Claims ( <u>    </u> x \$18.00)	=	0.00
Extra Independent Claims ( <u>    </u> x \$80.00)	=	0.00
Total Filing Fee:	=	<b>\$710.00</b>

10.            The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$ and any additional fee which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account . *A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.*

11.            A check in the amount of \$0.00 is enclosed.

12.   X   The prior application is assigned of record to STMicroelectronics, Inc..

13.   X   The power of attorney in the prior application is to Lisa K. Jorgenson, Reg. No. 34,845.

- a.   X   The power of attorney appears in the original papers in the prior application.
- b.        A new power of attorney is enclosed (*adding prosecution attorneys*).
- c.        Since the power of attorney does not appear in the original papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.
- d.   X   Address all future communication to: **Lisa K. Jorgenson, Esq.,  
STMicroelectronics, Inc., 1310 Electronics Drive, Carrollton, Texas 75006-5039.**

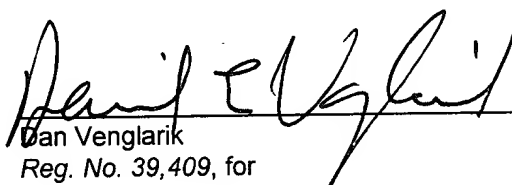
14.   X   I hereby verify that the attached papers are a true copy of prior application serial no. 08/169,337, as originally filed on December 17, 1993.

The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of his or her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issuing thereon.

November 14, 2000

Date

Address of signatory:  
FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VADEN,  
GUNTER & DILLON, LLP  
201 Main Street, Suite 1600  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102  
817/332-8143

  
Dan Venglarik  
Reg. No. 39,409, for

           Inventor(s)  
           Assignee of complete interest  
           Attorney or agent of record  
  X   Filed under §1.34(a)